

## MOSQUITO COMMENT.

BY HARRISON G. DYAR AND FREDERICK KNAB, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Dr. Ludlow addresses her remarks (CAN. ENT., XLI, 21, 1909) to the senior author of this note. In a joint article, like the one in question (CAN. ENT., XL, 312, 1908), the responsibility is jointly shared, and Dr. Ludlow should have addressed us both. Any other course is likely to lead to error and to the imputation of responsibility in the wrong quarter, as in the present instance.

We are glad to learn that Dr. Ludlow uses precautions to prevent, as far as may be, errors arising from the unfortunate manner in which her specimens are preserved. Whether the error in the locality given for *Anopheles perplexens* arose as suggested by us, or as Dr. Ludlow now thinks probable, is immaterial to the point at issue; the point gained is that Dr. Ludlow now admits the error, and we may with the more security omit the species in any consideration of the North American fauna.

We would earnestly suggest to Dr. Ludlow's consideration such a disposition of her types that they would be easily accessible to students, either at the Surgeon-General's office or at the National Museum.

We would point out that the new genus, *Calvertia*, is preoccupied by *Calvertius*, Sharp (Coleoptera), and *Calvertia*, Warren (Lepidoptera).

Speaking of preoccupied names, the Culicid genus *Carrollia*, Lutz, has a narrow escape from that fate. We note the existence of *Carolia*, Cantr. (Mollusca), and *Carollia*, Gray (Mammalia), which will certainly cause confusion, yet all must stand under the latest rules. We do not think that the rule should be held to apply to terminations of names which may be in masculine, feminine, neuter or barbarous form, as the distinguishing of these is an unnecessary tax on the memory, but it undoubtedly applies to differences of single letters in the body of the name. We are able to recognize the genus *Carrollia*, Lutz, as distinct from *Culex*, the type being *Carrollia iridescens*, Lutz, and to add to it a second species, *Melanoconion Urichii*, Coquillett (CAN. ENT., XXXVIII, 61, 1906), which will now stand as *Carrollia Urichii*, Coquillett.

The following new species has come to our notice :

*Culex trachycampa*, n. sp.—Proboscis black, moderately long and slender, hardly swollen at the tip. Palpi black-scaled. Mesonotum blackish, clothed with dark bronzy-brown scales; abdomen subcylindrical, depressed, truncate at tip, dark-scaled above with coppery lustre, beneath with distinct white basal segmental bands. Legs blackish with bronzy

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lustre, the femora pale beneath to near the tip. Wings rather broad, the outstanding scales of the veins linear and narrowly ovate, denser on the forks of the second and fourth veins. Claws simple in the female. Length about 2.5 mm.

In the male the palpi are slightly longer than the proboscis, the apical portion hairy, bronzy-black throughout. Wings narrower than in the female, without the longest and narrowest scales; the coloration similar.

One male and one female, Las Cascadas, Canal Zone, Panama. (A. Busck, collector.)

Type No. 12194, U. S. National Museum.

A new mosquito has also come to hand from Banff, Alberta, for which we propose the name:

*Aedes Sansoni*, n. sp.—Closely allied to *Aedes subcantans*, Felt, but larger and darker in colour, the scales of the wings entirely black, not intermixed brown and whitish on the costa, as they are in *A. subcantans*.

Five specimens, Banff, Alberta, Canada. Collected in the summer of 1908. (N. B. Sanson.)

Type No. 12195, U. S. National Museum.

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#### BOOK NOTICES.

DARWINISM TO-DAY. By Professor Vernon L. Kellogg. Pp. XII. + 403. New York: Henry Holt & Co.

The fifty years which have elapsed since the publication of Darwin's "Origin of Species," have witnessed the ardent prosecution of biological research in many directions. A vast number of new facts have been collected, correlated and their interpretation attempted. In the light of this new knowledge the various aspects of the theory of evolution by natural selection have been critically examined, in a manner much more searching than was thought possible to Darwin's contemporaries. Yet at the present time we still have the greatest diversity of opinion. On the one hand are scientific critics, of no mean influence, maintaining that natural selection is now discredited as the only, or even the chief, agent in the organization of species, and at the other extreme are those who are still firm believers in its efficiency.

The literature of the subject is largely controversial, widely scattered, and much of it in German, and in presenting the gist of it in a form which enables the biological student or the general reader to form a sound estimate of the present status of Darwinism, Prof. Kellogg has performed a very valuable piece of work.